# FACTS

## EVERY CHURCHMAN

## SHOULD KNOW

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GENERAL CONVENTION is the highest legislative authority of the Episcopal Church.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL, *as the executive arm of General Convention, is charged with the responsibility for the "unification, development, and prosecution of the missionary, educational, and social work of the Church."*

THIS WORK, comprehended as the Church's Mission, is carried out by the National Council working through its six Departments.

*These six Departments are Overseas, Home, Christian Education, Christian Social Relations, Promotion, and Finance.*

THE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY is not a department of the National Council, but is auxiliary to the National Council, sharing in the work of all its Departments.

*The Woman's Auxiliary also supports the Church's work by continuing the two oldest projects carried on by the women of the Church, the United Thank Offering and the Supply Work.*

THE PRESIDING BISHOP'S COMMITTEE for Laymen's Work is not a department of the National Council, but works directly under the supervision of the Presiding Bishop.

*The Presiding Bishop's Committee for Laymen's Work seeks to encourage the development of organizations which will enlist men in the work and worship of the Church.*

THE end purpose of the work of the Departments of the National Council, the Woman's Auxiliary, and the Presiding Bishop's Committee for Laymen's Work is to carry out the Church's Mission.

***This Mission, that Christ be made known to the world, remains unchanged in a world that is continually changing.***

IN order to carry out effectively the Church's Mission, the program changes to meet changing needs.

***Within the past decade, dozens of new ideas and methods have been put into use by the Church in the carrying out of its Mission.***

THE TASK of Christian education for children and adults as it is now understood, goes far beyond the requirements of a Sunday school curriculum alone. Christian education is the process of growing in the Christian faith; growing in knowledge, participation, and commitment. Curriculum is being interpreted in terms of Christian experience in home and parish family life.

***Leadership training for adults has received new impetus. Throughout the Church, Parish Life Conferences are being scheduled, involving week-end-long, intensive study and discussion; mobile teams are carrying the Church's Program in Christian education to all areas of the United States; more and more emphasis is being placed upon the summer conference as an opportunity for leadership training.***

THROUGHOUT the Church there is a growing interest in the problems and opportunities facing the Church's four hundred parishes and missions in urban-industrial areas? Clergy conferences, training institutes, and experimental programs are being held in an attempt to learn the ways a city parish can best reach out and serve the unchurched that surround it.

***Have you heard about***

***The Church's expanded program of social education and community action? Through this program, it is hoped that better social relationships will be created among peoples of widely differing social, economic, and cultural backgrounds.***

THE wide range of audio-visual materials for use in the Church? Today, this range is wider than ever before. In 1952, for example, it was possible for every Churchman unable to be in Boston to listen in on the services, debates, and speeches of the General Convention. This was through the use of the long-playing record, *Listening in on General Convention.*

***The Church's use of radio and television? These two latest methods of communication are being used to tell Episcopalians about what their Church is doing, and to tell the country as a whole what the Episcopal Church is and what it stands for.***

FACULTY-CLERGY conferences and Faculty Papers? These are among the ways in which the Church is reaching out to faculty members in its task of evangelizing the whole college campus. No longer is the Church working only among students; instead, it has initiated a complete program for college faculty.

*The Church's Teaching series? When it is complete, the series will consist of six books. The four volumes already available are* The Holy Scriptures *by Robert C. Dentan,* Chapters in Church History *by P. M. Dawley,* The Faith of the Church *by James A. Pike and W. Norman Pittenger, and* The Worship of the Church *by* Massey H. Shepherd, Jr. *The two still to come will be on Christian living and the Church at work.*

ADULT READING and Discussion Courses? These courses make it possible for every family of the parish to come together with other families for effective study on topics vital to Churchmen.

*Recruiting? Well-equipped men and women are needed to work for the Church at home and overseas. Recruiting programs are giving every Churchman the opportunity to aid the whole Church in obtaining these workers.*

ROANRIDGE? This rural training center in Missouri gives those clergy who would work in the sparsely populated areas of the United States the chance to learn first-hand what is required for a ministry in town and country. At the same time, it provides

for refresher courses for those clergy actively at work in rural areas.

**And do you know**

THAT no longer is a missionary expected to be a jack of all trades? Today, the medical, educational, and agricultural professions are represented in the missionary areas by persons trained in them. In Liberia, for example, the whole country points with pride to the program developed by the Church's agriculturist. In the Philippines, a brand new diocesan center is being planned by the Church's architect.

***That since 1949, world relief has been an item in the General Church Budget? This means that every Churchman through his regular pledge is aiding in a far-reaching program of world relief and church co-operation.***

THAT the Church takes a stand on many national and international problems by setting forth Christian attitudes and calling for action programs? As examples of such leadership, the 1952 General Convention and Triennial Meeting of the women of the Church adopted resolutions on international relations, national problems, and Christian citizenship and social responsibility. The House of Bishops, meeting in Williamsburg, Va., in 1953, took a stand on communism and fascism.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL
281 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

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